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For two years the rural cooperatives of the Peasant Self-Help engaged in buying grain to be stored and marketed by granaries. However, spasmodic deliveries created a chaotic condition, and encouraged wealthy farmers to hold back grain for speculation. In some rural areas speculation began to spread into various trades; for example, blacksmiths began to demand payment from the small and medium farm owners in wheat rather than in money.

To regulate the supply, the government has placed the responsibility for deliveries in the hands of farmers who, at community and rural meetings, must regulate the delivery from their area at determined periods. To insure the accomplishment of the delivery plan, these men appoint teams of three. However, even here the element of speculation and reaction has crept in. The teams have deliberately overlooked the existence of large stores of wealthy farms.

By means of grain shipments, the USSR enables the Polish government to thwart speculative elements and control the supply of grain for the fulfillment of its economic plans.

RECLAMATION PROJECTS TO COVER MILLION HECTARES -- Slowo Polskie, No 4, 29 Jan 50

At a meeting of the State Reclamation Service, Dab-Kociol, Minister of Agriculture and Agricultural Reform, said that the work of reclamation completed under the Three-Year Plan made up to a great extent for prewar neglect in this field.

In 3 years, 2,258 kilometers of protective piling were laid, 4,000 kilometers of rivers were regulated, and 28,000 kilometers of ditches were cleaned or built over a total area of 280,000 hectares. Drains were built over an area of 11,000 hectares.

The Zulawy area was completely drained and all damaged piling and pumping equipment repaired, making 120,000 hectares of productive land available for cultivation.

The reclamation projects under the Six-Year Plan are closely tied in with the agricultural production plans. Improvements will be carried out over a 520,000-hectare area of fields and pastures. Drainage canals will be repaired and new ones installed over a 300,000-hectare area. Open ditches will be built over a 200,000-hectare area of arable land.

Under the Six-Year Plan, the reclamation projects will cover a 500,000-hectare area of arable land and 500,000 hectares of fields and pastures. Credits to finance these projects are provided for; it is expected that in 1955 these credits will be four times greater than in 1950.

176 MACHINE CENTERS IN POMORZE -- Rolnik Polski, No 22, 19 Feb 50

At present, there are 176 machine centers and 62 permanent village branches in Pomorze. During 1949, the number of tractors increased twofold, and the number of farm machines increased threefold. Cooperative machine centers in 1949 served 100,000 small and medium farm holders, and 1,440 state and cooperative farms.

TO EXPAND POULTRY RAISING -- Trybuna Robotnicza, No 46, 15 Feb 50

The Economic Committee of the Council of Ministers recently passed a resolution for the promotion of increased production of poultry and eggs.

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Production is to be increased, with emphasis on the improvement in the quality of production. Breeding centers, mostly at State Farms, will be established to raise special stock for breeding purposes.

Producers' Cooperatives will also put poultry management on a systematic basis. The production and the average live weight of poultry will increase and the production of eggs will increase by several million eggs a year.

In addition to buying on the open market, contracting for poultry will begin this year. A prize will be given for those who exceed the norm of supply. Egg prices advantageous to the producer will be established to create a basis for a lucrative business. To facilitate more efficient handling, the network of purchasing centers will be expanded.

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